

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence ~~plant~~ comprising a polynucleotide, ~~AGT-SAL-11~~ having a sequence ~~SEQ ID No. 1~~ SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1 wherein said ~~AGTSAL~~ polynucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide as shown in ~~SEQ ID No. 2~~ SEQ ID NO:2.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 2 wherein said polypeptide has glycosylation and phosphorylation sites.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim ~~26~~ wherein said glycosylation is O glycosylation.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 2 wherein said ~~AGT-SAL-11~~ polynucleotide sequence has a mixture of  $\alpha\beta$  type of secondary structure.
9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) A transgenic plant comprising a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to the polynucleotide sequence as claims in claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for conferring salt tolerance on a plant, the method comprising introducing into the plant a recombinant expression cassette comprising a ~~plant-operator~~ promoter operably linked to ~~AGT-SAL~~ the polynucleotide sequence as claimed in claim 1.